

Message Text

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56

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 /016 W
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R 281000Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY SANA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8941
INFO AMCONSUL KARACHI
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

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DEPT FOR A/SY/FO
KARACHI FOR RSS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ASEC, AFSP, APER, AFSI, YE
SUBJECT: LANGUAGE DESIGNATED RSO POSITIONS

REF: STATE 210149

1. SANA RSO SLOT SHOULD BE ARABIC LDP. THIS SUBJECT OFTEN
DISCUSSED AT POST AND WAS HIGH-LIGHTED BY ADMIN OFFICER IN
PRESENT RSO'S LAST OER.

2. VIRTUALLY
NO YARG POLICE OR SECURITY OFFICIAL WITH WHOM
RSO MUST DEAL, SPEAKS OR UNDERSTANDS ENGLISH. LONG TERM OUTLOOK
IN THIS REGARD IS NO BETTER. IN RELATEAREA, RSO BEARS PRIMARY
RESPONSIBILITY FOR SUPERVISION OF YARG COM DETAIL AND COMPOUND
GUARDS. LACK OF ARABIC HAS OFTEN CAUSED DIFFICULTY IN DEALING WITH
ASSIGNED PERSONNEL AS REGARDS JOB TRAINING AND/OR SECURITY POLICY.

3. ALSO INVOLVED ARE PROBLEMS IN LOCATING-
RETAINING COMPETENT ENGLISH-SPEAKING SUPERVISORY CADRE FOR FSLE
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SECURITY FORCES. DUE TO A NUMBER OF FACTORS, THIS APPROACH

HAS BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL AND FUTURE IS NO BRIGHTER.

4. IN IMPORTANT AREA OF SOCIAL CULTIVATION OF YARG COUNTERPART OFFICIALS, SUCH ACTIVITY IS VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE UNLESS OFFICER KNOWS ARABIC AND CAN EFFECTIVELY COMMUNICATE AT OFFICIAL NAD SOCIAL FUNCTIONS. IN FACT, INVATIONS TO SUCH FUNCTIONS ARE OFTEN PREDICATED ON ABILITY OF OFFICER IN ARABIC. SECURITY-POLICE TYPES CAN AND WILL "OPEN-UP" AND MORE FREELY DISCUSS SUPPORT, MUTUAL PROBLEMS, INTERNAL SECURITY SITUATION ETC, IF AN EMBASSY FSLE IS NOT PRESENT WITH A U.S. OFFICER WHO KNOWS THE LANGUAGE.

5. BASED UPON OBSERVATION OF ARABIC-TRAINED OFFICERS SERVING IN YAR IN MULTITUDE OF SPECIALTIES, IT IS FELT THAT 2/2 LEVEL AS RATED BY FSI COULD BE A BIT TOO LOW TO ALLOW AN LDP-RSO TO PROPERLY CONDUCT USG BUSINESS TO MAXIMUM EFFECT.

6. WE WOULD PREFER THAT TRAINING FOR RSO (LDP) AT SANA BE GEARED TO S-3/R-2 PLUS LEVEL. MODERN STANDARD ARABIC IS MEDIUM TO LONG TERM HARD-LANGUAGE FSI PROJECT AND ACHIEVEMENT OF THIS LEVEL (OR EVEN 2/2) WOULD PROBABLY REQUIRE 12 TO 18 MONTHS; THE DIFFERENCE IN TRAINING TIME BETWEEN 2/2 AND 3/3 IS CONSIDERED SMALL IN TERMS OF OVERALL PROGRAM LENGTH (2) YRS PRODUCES 3 PLUS TO 4 LEVEL).

7. POST RECOMMENDS THEREFORE THAT FOLLOWING GUIDELINE BE ADOPTED:
ARABIC (MODERN STANDARD)
SANA RSO 56-016 RU-5 3/2PLUS.
LEE

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